



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on 3/24/05, this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a) with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



Maria Nadal

Free
PATENT

Applicant: Matthew J. Birdsall et al.

Serial No.: 10/701,262

Filed: 11/03/2003

Title: METALLIC COMPOSITE COATING
FOR DELIVERY OF THERAPEUTIC
AGENTS FROM THE SURFACE OF
IMPLANTABLE DEVICES

Art Unit: 1742

Atty Docket No.: 51298-00001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL FOR APPLICATIONS RELATING TO BIOTECHNOLOGY FILED BY
APPLICANTS WHO ARE SMALL ENTITIES UNDER 37 CFR 1.17(h)

Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby petitions to make this application special because a small entity status has been established, and the subject of the patent application is related to biotechnology and is a major asset of the small entity. The development of the technology will be significantly impaired if examination of the patent application is delayed.

The accompanying affidavit declaration by the

applicant

applicant's practitioner

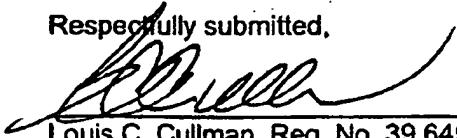
explains establishment of small entity and the development of the technology will be significantly impaired if examination of the patent application is delayed.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge \$130 or any fee which may be required in connection with this Petition to deposit account No. 50-3207.

3/29/2005 HAL111 00000024 503207 10701262

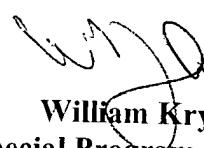
1 FC:1464 130.00 DA
Dated 3/24/05

Respectfully submitted,


Louis C. Cullman, Reg. No. 39,645
Customer No. 48,423

PRESTON GATES & ELLIS LLP
1900 Main Street, Suite 600
Irvine, California 92614-7319
Telephone: (949) 253-0900
Facsimile: (949) 253-0902

PETITION GRANTED


William Krynski
Special Program Examiner

TC 1700 APR - 4 2005